

has earned the respect and admiration of fellow teachers, administrators, students, their families and our community.

Coach Maxey as a basketball coach had an 80% overall winning record that included: State Championship in 1994; Runner-Up Championship in 1998; Final 4 Competitions; Elite 8 appearances as well as seven Area Championships participating in tournaments all over the United States.

Coach Maxey's special talents, strong leadership and expertise led to his mentoring and coaching many outstanding athletes in the Selma City Schools including many All-State players as well as an All-Tournament player.

Notably, we are celebrating Coach Maxey's accomplishments and retirement from high school sports; but, his illustrious career and dedicated service to the youth of our community will continue in his current role as Assistant Coach at Wallace Community College Selma. His career shows the heart of Coach Willie E. Maxey, Jr. and the positive influential role he has played to develop athletic abilities in young people.

Coach Maxey continues to demonstrate an exemplary commitment to community service through his long-time membership in the New Shiloh Baptist Church in Sardis, Alabama where he is Chairman of the Trustee Board. Also, he serves on the International Paper Advisory Board, is a member of the Board of Directors for Kittie Kastle Daycare and has been involved in numerous civic and community endeavors in Sardis and Selma, Alabama.

On a personal note, I have known Coach Maxey all my life. A close family friend, I understand that I was the first newborn baby he ever held. He served as assistant coach under my father Coach Andrew A. Sewell and graciously succeeding him as head basketball coach at Selma High School when my father had a stroke in 1990. My father was proud to mentor and work with Coach Maxey and he was so elated over his successful coaching career. It was with tremendous pride that Selma High gymnasium was dedicated and renamed the "Sewell-Maxey Gymnasium" in honor of the outstanding legacy of both coaches. The retirement of Coach Maxey is truly the end of a golden era in Selma High basketball. I know that his legacy lives on in the hearts of all the young men he coached.

On behalf of the 7th Congressional District, the State of Alabama and this nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the accomplishments and retirement of Coach Willie E. Maxey, Jr. We pay tribute to his distinguished career and contributions for the betterment of youth in our society and extend deep appreciation for his distinguished service.

RECOGNIZING PESACH OSINA

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 2, 2013

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pesach Osina. Mr. Osina learned from a young age the importance of working on behalf of the community. Born in Brooklyn to parents who were well known for their kindness and charity, Pesach moved to Far Rockaway in 1999.

Pesach immediately got involved in Far Rockaway community life—as an active board member of the Jewish Community Council (JCCRP) and a founding member of the Rockaway Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). He started a holiday toy collection and distribution organization that provides toys to hundreds of needy families. In addition, Pesach used his love for politics to advance the needs of the community by actively advocating with local elected officials.

After helping elect Phil Goldfeder to the New York State Assembly in September of 2011, Pesach joined Goldfeder's government staff as Community Liaison and put his experience and skills to work for the community at the government level. Pesach has carved out a name for great work, responsiveness and community service.

Pesach's passion for helping others has been most evident during the last few months—prior to and in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. Pesach worked with government officials and community leaders doing to prepare the community, as much as possible, for the impending storm. As the storm was raging, he worked throughout the night with local organizations to communicate with and to meet the needs of stranded families. In the days and nights following the storm, Pesach travelled throughout the community visiting relief sites and working with community leaders to ensure that all of the community needs were met.

Pesach has provided a beacon of hope and an exemplary standard of community service to the entire district. On behalf of New York State's 5th District, I commend Mr. Pesach Osina and thank him for all his contributions to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT BLOMQUIST

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 2, 2013

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mayor Robert G. Blomquist who has proudly given 14 years of public service to the residents of Olmsted Falls in the great State of Ohio. Mayor Blomquist graduated from Olmsted Falls High School in 1973 and served in the United States Navy from 1976–1981. Mayor Blomquist is a graduate of Baldwin Wallace College where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Finance. He also is a graduate of Culinary Institute of America. As a public servant, Mr. Blomquist served on Olmsted Falls's City Council for six years before being elected as Mayor of the city in 1999. Under his leadership, Olmsted Falls has made incredible progress. Under Mayor Blomquist's direction, the city initiated construction of a railroad underpass on State Route 252, installed quiet zones on seven railroad crossings on both CSX and Norfolk Southern railroads and construction of a new fire station serving the people and businesses of the community. Mayor Blomquist has also served as a board member to the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency and Cuyahoga County Planning Commission as well as on the Olmsted Economic Development Committee.

I would like to acknowledge Mayor Blomquist's achievements throughout his long

career of public service and thank him for his outstanding contributions to the people of Olmsted Falls and the 16th District of Ohio.

“REMEMBERING PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY” INSPIRATION TO MILLIONS, AMERICAN HERO, ENDURING SYMBOL OF THE GREATEST GENERATION, AND THE 35TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 2, 2013

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, in the life of this nation there have been a few events of such consequence and moment that they have a transformative impact on the people of the country. For my parents' generation the death of President Franklin Roosevelt was such an occasion.

The explosion of the Shuttle Challenger in 1986 left a traumatic and indelible impression on my children's generation. The morning of September 11, 2001 is a day no living American will forget.

For my generation, however, the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963 is the moment that lives with us forever. For on that day, my generation lost its leader, its hero, its champion. And its innocence.

None of us can forget where we were and how we felt when we learned the terrible news. I was a young schoolgirl when my teacher, wiping away tears, announced to the class that President Kennedy had been shot in Dallas, Texas and was dead. I was stunned and shocked and sad and heartbroken. I cried all the way home. When I got there I went to my room and prayed.

A half century later, I still remember that day as if it were yesterday. And every year on this day for the last 50 years, I always pause to remember the man who inspired me to devote my life to public service and who, along with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, taught me by their example that the greatest calling in life is the call to serve others.

And I still say a prayer for President Kennedy each November 22 but they have not been prayers of lamentation for many years. They are prayers of thanks to the Lord for his infinite wisdom and grace in blessing our country with a captain as perfectly suited to lead our ship of state during the epochal time that was the 1960s as was Abraham Lincoln to the 1860s.

The year 1963 is one of the most momentous in the life of our nation. It was in August, 50 years ago, that the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. challenged and inspired a nation by sharing his dream about its future at the largest peaceful demonstration in American history.

The year 1963 also marked the centennial of the Gettysburg Address, which redefined and reenobled the meaning of the American experience and is the only other American speech that can stand with Dr. King's and not suffer in the comparison.

At Gettysburg, President Lincoln delivered the words that consoled and helped to heal and reunite a divided nation. He reminded us